

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ADAPTIVE AND ONLINE ASSIGNMENT IN HIERARCHICAL OVERLAY NETWORKS

ABSTRACT

5 A method and apparatus is disclosed for calculating a threshold used to assign a data transmission from a user to one layer in a plurality of layers in a wireless communications network. A balancing metric is calculated for one layer in the network as a function of a characteristic of the user's data transmission. This balancing metric is then calculated for a second layer in the
10 network, also as a function of the characteristic of the user's transmission. A threshold is then adjusted in response to the value of the first balancing metric relative to the second balancing metric. Data users are then assigned to a layer in the network based on a comparison of the threshold to the value of the characteristic for that user.